

Congressmen Secure Federal Commitment to Construct Training Facility, Protect the Base's Future, Create and Sustain Dozens of Jobs and Enhance the Safety of Our Troops

New Jersey – Today, Congressmen John Adler (NJ –03) and Rob Andrews (NJ–01) joined Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JBMDL) Commander Gina L. Grosso to announce the authorization of over \$10 Million in federal funding for the JBMDL. The Congressmen secured approval for the project as part of the National Defense Authorization Bill, which the House Armed Services Committee passed Wednesday. The funds will be used to establish an Automated Multipurpose Machine Gun Range to train Army, Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers. Furthermore, the project will benefit the local community as today's announcement could potentially save or create dozens of jobs.

"Nothing is more important than protecting local families and the safety of our country," Congressman John Adler said. "I am pleased to help provide the best training equipment available for the Joint Base and our service members. I will continue to do everything in my power to protect and preserve the Joint Base."

"If you are training Army personnel to protect our national security, it is absolutely vital that you have a first class facility," said Congressman Andrews. "This bipartisan authorization passed committee by a unanimous vote of 59-0, and I am confident that together with Congressman Adler's leadership we will see this authorization become a reality for the thousands of men and women training right here in South Jersey."

Background:

The Automated Multipurpose Machine Gun Range was included in the FY 11 National Defense Authorization Act .The bill was unanimously approved by the House Armed Services Committee on Wednesday, and it is expected that the full House will approve it next week.

This project will convert the Mobile Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) Site to a standard design Multipurpose Machine Gun (MPMG) Range. This project is required to train and test soldiers on the skills necessary to perform their mission. The resulting range will satisfy the training and qualification requirements of light and heavy machine guns. Combat and combat support units require training proficiency in machine gun weapon systems. Army standard ranges with target systems are necessary to prepare soldiers for combat.

Army, Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers will be able to train to current standards and requirements with this facility. Soldiers will no longer have to continue to train on sub and nonstandard training facilities. Ultimately, soldiers will enter future combat fully prepared to employ the full capabilities of their weapons and equipment.